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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE
(DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 USC 371**

International Application No. : PCT/JP2005/003990
International Filing Date : March 08, 2005
Priority Date Claimed : March 08, 2004 and October 15, 2004
Title of Invention : MINERAL-CONTAINING ACIDIC PROTEIN DRINK
Applicant(s) for DO/EO/US : SHIGERU ASHIDA
TSUTOMU SAITO
TOSHIO KIRIYAMA
MASAKO YOSHIDA

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371.
3. ☒ This express requests to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21).
4. ☒ The U.S. has been elected (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 USC 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☒ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 USC 371(c)(2)).
 - a. ☒ is attached hereto.
 - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An Oath of Declaration of the inventor(s) (35U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☐ An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 USC 371(c)(5)).

Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:

11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

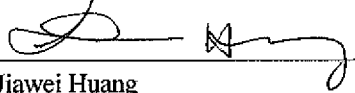
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12. ☐ An Assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☐ A Preliminary Amendment.
14. ☐ An Application Data Sheet under 37 CR 1.76.
15. ☐ A substitute specification.
16. ☐ A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.
17. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13^{ter}.2 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825.
18. ☐ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
19. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
20. ☒ Other items or information:
a. ☒ International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).

(X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with the filing of the above national phase application, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0710 (Order No. JCLA16171).

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